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The Regional Partnership for Culture and Development (RPCD) is a program of USAID's Office of Middle East Programs (OME). The goal of the RPCD is to gather and disseminate information that will improve development efforts in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

The Annotated Bibliography Series is a quarterly publication that highlights the most recent publications and studies covering issues in the MENA region in three focus areas: natural resources management, youth development and engagement, and democracy and governance. It includes syntheses, brief evaluations of the work and context, and detailed information on the author, date, and source. We welcome your comments on this publication or suggestions for inclusion in future Annotated Bibliographies at rpcdinfo@fhi360.org.

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Youth Development and Engagement:

Youth Exclusion in Yemen: Tackling the Twin Deficits of Human Development and Natural Resources

This paper tracks the pathways that lead to the lack of opportunities for Yemeni youth to become positive contributors to society. It uses a life-cycle approach to identify causes for youth exclusion in education, employment, and family formation. The authors argue that youth exclusion is highly gendered and regionalized in Yemen, and describes human development and natural resources as twin shortfalls. The study concludes with three main recommendations for policymakers: the use of holistic development approaches to target youth, a focus on improving women's and girls' participation, and a move from large-scale projects to micro-institutional interventions. Development assistance from neighboring Gulf countries and open migration policies with respect to Yemeni labor are both suggested.

A well-structured analysis of the effects of the youth bulge in Yemen, the report gives a thorough overview of the human development challenges faced in the country. Recommended for policymakers and officers of donor organizations, this study gives baseline data and analysis for future sustainable programs and interventions.

<http://www.shababinclusion.org/content/document/detail/1510/>

Assaad, Ragui, Ghada Barsoum, Emily Cupito, and Daniel Egel. (2009). "Youth Exclusion in Yemen: Tackling the Twin Deficits of Human Development and Natural Resources." *Working paper No. 9*. Middle East Youth Initiative. Web. May 2012.

Confidence, Capacity, Connections: A Young Woman's Guide to Leadership

Drawn from interviews with female leaders in the MENA region, this guide provides the basic tools necessary for young women to build their confidence enhance their capacity and make connections in an effort to develop their leadership skills. The article is organized in parts that target specific aspects towards building young women's leadership potential through confidence, capacity, and connections. It examines confidence through understanding oneself, time management, and types and realities of leadership. Aspects of project planning addressed in the guide include handling finances, fundraising, using technology, and monitoring and evaluating project development. Finally, the guide discusses connections through networking, mentoring, and nurturing the cause.

Part of NDI's "Youth of Today, Leaders of Tomorrow" initiative, the recommendations and strategies developed in this report are based on the experiences of 25 young women activists from Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia. This guide is useful to gender and youth specialists to better develop programs that meet the needs of young women with leadership potential. It includes questionnaires and forms that engage women in practical exercises to develop their confidence, capacity, and connections.

<http://www.ndi.org/node/16472>

Borovsky, Gabriella, Sarah Cherrabi El Alaoui, Megan Doherty. "Confidence, Capacity, Connections: A Young Woman's Guide to Leadership." *National Democratic Institute* (2010). Web. May 2012.

Morocco's February 20 Movement: Towards a Second Independence?

This journal article analyzes the evolution of the 20 February Movement led by Moroccan youth. It presents the main characteristics of the movement in an attempt to assess whether it represents a continuity of the country's historical and political past or a real break from previous protest dynamics in Morocco. The article examines the impact of the movement on individuals and the society at large, and addresses it as an opportunity to establish effective structural reforms in Moroccan society and revive a lost political conscience among factions of society, youth in particular.

The article is useful for researchers and political scientists interested in examining the roots of protest movements in Morocco. The author also offers a unique youth perspective on the subject, which helps understand how the 20 February Movement recharged youth engagement dynamics in the Moroccan society, and why it is sometimes compared to the independence movement in the 1940s. This article is only available in French.

<http://revueaverroestest.files.wordpress.com/2011/08/art-mernissi-revue-averroc3a8s-n4-5-aoc3bbt2011.pdf>

Mernissi, Laila. (2011) "Le Mouvement Du 20 Février Au Maroc: Vers Une Seconde Indépendance ?" Revue Averroes 4-5. Web. May 2012.

Survey of Young People in Egypt

This report profiles Egyptian youth transitions in health, education, employment and livelihood, family formation, and civic participation. Through a nationally representative sample of 15,000 young Egyptians, the survey focuses on the main issues facing young people aged 10 to 29 in all governorates of Egypt, including urban and rural areas. The survey captures youth attitudes towards gender roles and equality. Each chapter provides actionable conclusions that can be used in future planning.

Based on surveys, field study, and previous research, this report is vital for development specialists in Egypt to improve programs and policies that target youth issues. The report draws from previous findings from the Adolescence and Social Change Report in Egypt and aims to update the findings of this ongoing research. The authors are specialized researchers and statisticians on youth issues in Egypt. This survey was published right after the revolution.

http://www.popcouncil.org/pdfs/2010PGY_SYPEFinalReport.pdf

Roushdy, Rania, Ghada Barsoum, Caroline Krafft, and Catherine Harbour et al. (2011). "Survey of Young People in Egypt". Population Council.

Arab Knowledge Report 2010/2011: Preparing Future Generations for the Knowledge Society

This report provides a comprehensive analysis of the culture of knowledge and information culture in four countries: Yemen, Morocco, Jordan, and the United Arab Emirates. Drawing on case studies and field research, the report proposes actions to prepare Arab youth to participate and integrate in the knowledge society. It explores the obstacles of accessing the Arab “knowledge society” and the requirements and opportunities to bridge knowledge gaps. Specifically, the report refers to education and social upbringing as venues to prepare for the knowledge society.

The report provides comprehensive research on the readiness of Arab youth to access the knowledge society and serves as a tool to understand the different factors affecting Arab youth development. Through a representative sample, the authors used five research tools to assess students’ skills, values, and enabling environments in the Arab countries. The authors make careful use of charts and tables to illustrate results and indicators of field research.

http://204.200.211.31/Update_March_2012/AKR%202011/AKR_%20English.PDF

“Arab Knowledge Report 2010/2011: Preparing Future Generations for the Knowledge Society.” (2012). Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation (MBRF) and The United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Arab States (UNDP/RBAS). Web. May 2012.

Natural Resource Management:

The Potential of Small-Scale Rainfed Agriculture to Strengthen Food Security in Arab Countries

This article examines the challenges and possible solutions to ensure food security in the MENA region. The focus is on rainfed agriculture, which accounts for two-thirds of the MENA region's cropland, the bulk of its food staples, and almost all of its rangelands. The paper describes several technologies that can increase farm productivity and summarizes results obtained from on-station and on-farm testing. Findings suggest that poor adoption of available technologies is the biggest problem. It is argued that the priority for researchers and policymakers should be to scale up investments in research and extension, encourage private sector participation, and create enabling policies to encourage technology adoption, market participation and more sustainable use of natural resources by smallholder farmers.

The research in this article is up-to-date and regional in scope. Although brief, it touches on a number of important aspects of food security, including climate change, technology transfer, and water scarcity. It provides an overview of existing technologies for the benefit of policymakers, donors, practitioners, and researchers. Published in the international peer-reviewed journal *Food Security*, this article is authored by experts from the International Center for Agriculture Research in the Dry Areas based in Jordan.

<http://www.springerlink.com/content/m5173u6446043n52/>

Haddad, Nasri et al. 2011. The Potential of Small-Scale Rainfed Agriculture to Strengthen Food Security in Arab Countries. *Food Security*. 3:163-73.

Incorporation of Environmental Dimension in Integrated Water Resources Management

This study examines the nexus of environmental issues and water resources in the MENA region. It shows how climate change, drought, desertification, sanitation and pollution all have an impact on water resources and are in turn affected by water resource management. The report also explores the impacts of supply management, such as dam construction, desalination, and wastewater treatment, on the environment. Each of these linkages is discussed with the aim of highlighting key problems and noting the importance of a more comprehensive approach to water governance.

The article is useful for practitioners and policymakers interested in more advanced approaches to IWRM. In each of the challenges presented, the report puts forward mitigation alternatives that can be implemented. The author, Fatma El-Gohary, is Emeritus Professor at the Water Pollution Research Department (WPCD) of the National Research Center (NRC) in Cairo.

<http://www.wgpas-undp.org/Reports/Incorporation%20of%20Environmental%20Dimension%20in%20Integrated%20Water%20Resources%20Management.pdf>

El-Gohary, Fatma. 2010. Incorporation of Environmental Dimension in Integrated Water Resources Management. Water Governance Program in the Arab States (WGP-AS). Cairo, Egypt.

Urban Mobility and Development in the Mediterranean: Regional Prospective Diagnoses (Mobilité Urbaine et Développement Durable en Méditerranée : Diagnostic Prospectif Régional)

This regional diagnosis of urban mobility in the Mediterranean is based upon six case studies of the cities of Istanbul, Cairo, Tunis, Algiers, Tangiers, and Aleppo. The linkages between urbanization, urban mobility, sustainability, and climate change are explored in detail. The report identifies regional challenges and introduces intervention strategies to overcome the problems related to environmental protection, sustainable development, and urban mobility in the Mediterranean Basin.

This work allows for a comparative analysis of past dynamics, current situation, and anticipated developments. The study intends to build a foundation for the implementation of adequate urban mobility strategies for sustainable development based on existing research and data. It is published by the Plan Bleu Regional Activity Center of the United Nations Environment Programme with contributions from the World Bank, the French Agency for Development and Veolia Environment. It is only available in French.

http://www.planbleu.org/publications/Cahier9_mobilite_urbaine.pdf

Houpin, Sylvain. 2010. Mobilité Urbaine et Développement Durable en Méditerranée : Diagnostic Prospectif Régional. Plan Bleu. Valbonne, France.

Stealth Environmental Influences on Economic Migration in Egypt

This research paper seeks to demonstrate the often unnoticed links between environmental degradation, human security, and migration in Egypt. Based on two months of qualitative research, the report has two main findings: 1) most experts did not believe there was a relationship between environmental conditions and migration, citing poverty and unemployment to be determining factors and 2) 72% of the migrants interviewed indicated that environmental problems had affected their decision to move, by leading to decreased economic welfare. The study concludes that environmental migration is an existing phenomenon in Egypt, however is not adequately recognized by community stakeholders or policymakers. The author calls for the creation of a government strategy to help mitigate the economic impacts of environmental degradation.

This paper addresses a major gap in the environmental degradation literature in Egypt and paves the way for further investigation of the drivers of migration in Egypt and North Africa more generally and a deeper analysis of the economic and social impacts of land degradation. The research was published as part of the Centre for International Governance Innovation - Africa Initiative discussion paper series. It is particularly useful for researchers, development practitioners and policymakers.

http://www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/no1%20rebrand_1.pdf

Afifi, Tamer. 2011. Stealth Environmental Influences on Economic Migration in Egypt. Africa Initiative Discussion Papers No. 1. Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI). Ontario, Canada

Overview of Wastewater Management Practices in the Mediterranean Region

This book chapter gives a snapshot of the current state of wastewater, water reuse and recycling in the Mediterranean region, focusing on key areas of weakness in existing management and regulation systems. Specific information is provided for Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Greece, Turkey, Tunisia, Cyprus, Spain, and Morocco. In response to the growing demand for wastewater reuse, the research highlights the need for stronger wastewater reclamation and reuse criteria embedded within a more integrated approach to water management. A unified guideline for water reuse in the Mediterranean region is recommended, to ensure the minimum and most basic water reuse regulations are adopted by all countries.

This chapter provides a useful cross-country comparison, examining shared obstacles faced by Mediterranean countries in managing wastewater and demonstrating the value of shared lessons and cooperation in regulation setting. It is published in the 14th volume of The Handbook of Environmental Chemistry dedicated to the subject of wastewater management in the Mediterranean region.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/698_2010_63

Zimmo, O. R. and Imseih, N. 2011. Overview of Wastewater Management Practices in the Mediterranean Region. The Handbook of Environmental Chemistry: Waste Water Treatment and Reuse in the Mediterranean Region. 14: 155-181.

Democracy and Governance:

Towards Establishing a Vision for the Independence and Impartiality of the Egyptian Judiciary

This report summarizes the outcome of a seminar on the issue of judiciary independence in Egypt. In the seminar, attendees engaged in discussions on the concept of Judiciary in Transitional Justice as a critical factor in post-revolutionary Egypt. In addition to addressing the country's ongoing efforts to draft a post-revolution constitution, the seminar delved deep into issues such as financial independence, implementation of court rulings, independence of the Public Prosecutor and lessons learned from other countries that have undertaken a post-transition effort at judicial justice.

This seminar was organized as a collaboration between the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) and the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN), while the report was published and disseminated by CIHRS. It is of value to government officials, political and human rights activists and legal development practitioners interested in the topic of post-transition justice.

<http://www.cihrs.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/report-english.pdf>

"Towards Establishing a Vision for the Independence and Impartiality of the Egyptian Judiciary." Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, 16 Apr. 2011. Web. 13 May 2012.

Yemen: The Way Forward

This document is a transcript of a presentation by four key Yemeni youth activists to a diverse group of participants in London. The activists draw a picture of how they see the future of their country after the revolution. The Yemeni representatives discussed how they want the international community to help in the transition from the Saleh regime, and explored issues including economic difficulties in a country where the unemployment rate is estimated at 50%, the challenge of dealing with high expectations from citizens for rapid post-election changes in society, and mobilizing NGOs for meaningful participation.

This presentation was organized, transcribed and published by Chatham House. The rich knowledge of the participants and their nuanced views of the events leading up to and following the transitions make this document key to understanding the future of Yemen.

<http://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/default/files/public/Meetings/Meeting%20Transcripts/070312yemen.pdf>

"Yemen: The Way Forward." Chatham House, 7 Mar. 2012. Web. 13 May 2012.

The role of external actors in the Arab transition

This policy brief gives a critical evaluation of the role of international actors like the International Monetary Fund (IMF), European Union and United States in the Arab Spring. The authors point out that Western policies toward formerly authoritarian regimes do not show a marked change post-revolution, in spite of regret that may be expressed by Western states for their support of the previous leaders.

Drawing lessons from several past examples of political transition, the report argues that although each country will require tailored policies, it is possible to generalize that the process should be domestically-driven and that external support should be over the long term. The report warns against mistakes repeated throughout recent history: neglecting underlying causes while focusing on surface issues, strict functionalist approaches, working only in the short term, undermining domestic ownership of the process, and “creating a democracy industry.” Published by a think tank for global action, FRIDE, this policy briefing provides a quick and concise reference for policymakers and donor strategists weighing the appropriate role of outside intervention in the MENA region.

<http://www.fride.org/publication/1004/the-role-of-external-actors-in-the-arab-transitions>

Echagüe, Ana. "The Role of External Actors in the Arab Transition." FRIDE, 2 Apr. 2012. Web. 13 May 2012.

Year of Rebellion: The State of Human Rights in the Middle East and North Africa

This report provides a broad summary of human rights violations in the year 2011 across the Arab region. It focuses chiefly on violations committed against civilian protesters and activists in the uprising countries: Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Syria, Bahrain, and Iraq, and includes a section that includes briefs on violations in other MENA countries as well. The report mixes numbers and dates with personal accounts to give, and in some cases includes analyses of laws passed to justify or permit the suppression of rights.

The report does not limit its scope to MENA authoritarian regimes, but discusses the response by international actors to the human rights violations, which the authors deem insufficient. Criticizing the failure of international actors to put human rights as the top priority, the report details the lack of a proper response to accommodate displaced people, and the contribution to the violations made by arms trafficking sanctioned or facilitated by Western states. This report is conducted and published by the globally active human rights organization Amnesty International. It is of value as a reference to donors in the human rights field and researchers looking for data on violations that could otherwise be difficult to collect in the tumultuous environment of many of the subject countries.

http://amnesty.org/sites/impact.amnesty.org/files/PUBLIC/MENA_Year_of_Rebellion.pdf

"Year of Rebellion: The State of Human Rights in the Middle East and North Africa." Amnesty International, Jan. 2012. Web. 14 May 2012.

Arab Monarchies: Chance for Reform, Yet Unmet

This paper addresses the opportunity for monarchies in the MENA region to carry out incremental steps toward democracy, and their failure to do so to date. While in all cases steps have been taken to appease citizens, the authors argue, the substance of the monarchs' changes have either been thin politically or focused on providing material benefits. The analysis considers the state of royal reforms in countries Morocco, Jordan and the Gulf States, where royal traditions are deeply rooted both socially and politically.

The paper concludes that the preemptive changes that Arab monarchies are implementing in the event that the Arab Spring does cross their borders will not last for long, because genuine, sustainable political reform has not been seriously introduced yet. This paper is published by Carnegie Endowment for International peace and is presents a rich analysis to challenges confronting Arab Monarchies. It may be of use to those planning development programming in MENA countries where a monarch remains in power.

http://carnegieendowment.org/files/arab_monarchies1.pdf

Ottaway, Marina, and Marwan Muasher. "Arab Monarchies: Chance for Reform, Yet Unmet." Carnegie Endowment, Dec. 2011. Web. 14 May 2012.